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PATENT, TRADEMARK, COPYRIGHT  
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**Express Mailing No. : EL717080007US**

**Date of Deposit: March 9, 2001**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: New U.S. Patent Application of:  
Applicant: Harry W. Schmidt et al.  
For : VIAL HANDLING SYSTEM WITH IMPROVED SAMPLE  
EXTRACTION  
Our File : T268.12-0047

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing are the following papers in connection  
with the above-identified patent application:

1. Complete specification and claims.  
7 pages Specification  
3 pages claims  
1 page Abstract
2. Unexecuted Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney  
(3 pages).
3. 3 sheets of drawings.

The filing fee is not enclosed with this communication.  
Pursuant to 35 USC § 111 and 37 CFR §§ 1.53(b) and 1.53(f), the  
filing fee, executed Declaration and executed Verified Statement  
Claiming Small Entity Status (if applicable) will be filed  
separately.

A filing date under 37 CFR §§ 1.10(b) and 1.53(b) of March 9, 2001 is respectfully requested. The enclosed materials are being sent "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" as of the date of this letter.

Yours very truly,



Christopher R. Christenson  
Reg. No. 42,413

CRC:ajm  
Enc.

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